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COMEBACK KIDS WIN
 LADY MONARCHS WIN LAST
 HOME GAME IN EXTRA INNINGS.



GALLERY - ONLINE
REMEMBRANCE
 HUNDREDS TURN OUT AT
 VALLEY TO REMEMBER
 THOSE KILLED IN THE
 ARMENIAN GENOCIDE.

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VALLEY STAR

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

VOLUME 64, ISSUE No. 7

APRIL 26, 2006

IT'S YOUR NEWSPAPER

Raising Awareness on Campus

BY MAGGIE OWNBEY
 OPINION EDITOR

Valley College held a Denim Day rally in Monarch Square last week to give support to survivors of rape and to get the conversation going about prevention and awareness on campus.

"One role that Denim Day plays is to get people's attention and bring to light the need for more discussion and further action regarding prevention and awareness measures on our campus," said Reed Walsh, team leader of the Campus Violence Response Team.

Walsh, on lead guitar, vocals and arrangements, joined other talented musicians from Valley faculty and staff and filled the air with the music of Santana. The Job Training office's Roberto Gutierrez was on congas and percussion and Maintenance and Operations' Joe Carter played keyboards while Bruce Thomas from the counseling department rocked the rhythm guitar.

Denim Day began as part of an international protest following an Italian Supreme Court's decision to overturn a rape conviction in 1998 because the victim wore jeans. The justices stated in their decision that, "it is common knowledge that jeans cannot even be partly removed without the effective help of the

see 'Denim' page 2

Valley Honors Armenian Genocide Victims



ARTAK AYVAZIAN / VALLEY STAR

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN - More than 200 students, parents and faculty members of Valley College joined Monday in Monarch Hall to remember the 1.5 million lives lost in the Armenian Genocide, which spanned from 1915 to 1924. The event featured a candlelight vigil, interpretive dance and a performance of "Der Voghormya," an Armenian prayer.

BY DANIEL SROURIAN
 STAFF WRITER

It was a somber late-afternoon on April 24 inside Monarch Hall as students, parents, and faculty members gathered to commemorate the 91st anniversary of the Armenian Genocide through folk singing and dancing and strong words delivered by various students.

"We are few, but we are Armenian" was the prevailing theme of the event, which was organized by the Armenian

Student Association. The crowd of 200 was made up mainly of Armenians, yet non-Armenians were present to pay their respects and learn about the events of 1915 that are too often hidden from the public.

The night began with every person bearing a lit candle and a moment of silence in memory of the genocide's 1.5 million victims. As the crowd was asked to approach the stage to place the candles in three separate candleholders, loud music roared through the hall with the dance group "Hayastan," dressed in traditional Armenian clothing, made their way on stage wrapped in each other's arms, dancing to Armenian folk composers.

"It was all very well done," said audience member Shant Karnikian. "What I liked the most was the fact that they tried hard to get the audience involved and make it as interac-

tive as possible."

Various organizers then stood on stage and spoke of the Armenian hardships that began on April 24, 1915, informing the crowd of the sequence of actions leading up to the genocide. They spoke in detail about the political and economical reasons of the genocide, leading into the description of the brutal ways used by Turks to murder Armenians.

The highlight of the event was the powerful and memorable singing and dancing done by performers who captivated the hearts of the audience through the movements of their voices and bodies. Naira Soghatyan sang the Armenian prayer "Der Voghormya" with a strong voice accompanied by a mellow piano as the light of the candles lit up her face. Following was an interpretive dance to the Armenian folk song "Giligia" by Narineh

Jugharyan, whose movements were so well defined that the audience had to clap despite prior mention of keeping the applause until the end.

"It is a sad day to begin with," said student and audience member Krikor Sarafian. "But being here and celebrating our heritage is something we have to do."

Although most Armenians were at the Turkish Embassy protests on Wilshire Blvd., which had a turnout of 10,000 people, this event at Valley was something small in size.

Valley Cuts Ribbon on First Prop A/AA-Funded Building



MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR

HOW MANY ADMINISTRATORS DOES IT TAKE TO CUT A RIBBON? - After a few tries the ribbon snapped in two in front of the new Sheriff's Station and Maintenance and Operations building at the April 20 ceremony. (L to R: Command Chief of the Community College Bureau Ronnie Williams, Valley College President Tyree Wieder, Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Los Angeles Community College District Chancellor Darroch "Rocky" Young and LACCD Board of Trustees member Georgia L. Mercer.)

BY MARCO ELORREAGA
 STAFF WRITER

Last week's ribbon cutting of the Sheriff's Station and Maintenance and Operations Building marked the completion of the first new building on campus in more than 30 years. Part of ReVitalizing Valley, the campus' massive renovation

project, funded by Propositions A and AA, the building is one of four new buildings scheduled to go up by 2010.

"With all consolidated storage facilities we're going to be more efficient and improve communication" said Tom Lopez, director of college facilities.

The \$46-million Allied Health and Science building

will begin construction soon, but first bungalows 53 through 69; and 48 and 49, just south of the plant facilities, will be demolished.

As FTR International Inc. finishes installing containment zones for the asbestos-filled and lead-laden buildings to protect

see 'Construction' page 2

OBITUARY

Campus Custodian Dies

BY LAGINA PHILLIPS
 AND DANIEL KANE
 STAFF WRITERS

Sam Reyes, Plant Facilities employee, died of cancer earlier this month. He was 50.

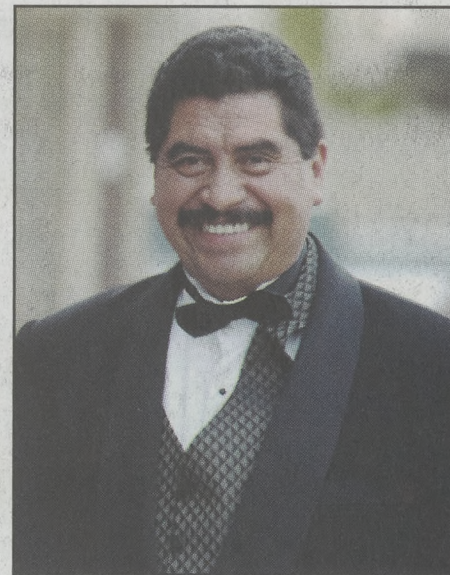
Sam is survived by two sons, Samuel Jr. and Edgar, and two daughters, who also work in Valley College's plant facilities, Saol and Zuri, as well as six grandchildren.

"He was a really nice father and an excellent grandfather," Saol said. "He is in heaven now; he is not suffering anymore."

Sam worked at Pierce College for five years before coming to work at Valley for another five.

"Nobody ever had a bad thing to say about him," said Cedric Smith, custodian supervisor. "He was a mild man and excellent employee."

He was laid to rest April 18 at Desert Lawn Memorial Park.



SAM REYES
 COURTESY OF PHILIP HIGLEY

Don't Forget to VOTE
 for the 2006-07 ASU board
TODAY
 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m.
 Monarch Square

CAMPUS EYE

Wednesday, April 26
ASU Elections
Monarch Square
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and
5 to 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 27
Justice Day
Monarch Square
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, April 29
Telling Stories bout Children
Child Development
Department
Math/Science Building,
room 110
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Monday, May 1
Illegal Immigration
Symposium
Sponsored by the
International Students Club
7 p.m.

Through May 25
Dan Douke: A Sweet Ride
Art Gallery
Monday through Thursday
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and
7 to 9 p.m.

THINK TRANSFER

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT THE CAREER
TRANSFER CENTER AT
(818) 947-2646

Wednesday, April 26
CSULA
Information Fair
Monarch Square
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Undecided Majors
Workshop
5:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 27
CSULA Representative
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
CSUN Representative
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5
p.m. to 7 p.m.
Undecided Majors
Workshop
1 p.m.

Friday, April 28
Bus Trip to UCLA STOMP
Conference 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All events are held in the
Career/Transfer Center
in the Administration
Building, room 126 unless
otherwise indicated.

Valley Club Hosts Symposium on Illegal Immigration

BY SEDA TERZYAN
STAFF WRITER

The International Students Club will present a Symposium Monday in Monarch Hall with the goal of educating people about one of the most controversial topics in recent times: illegal immigration.

"We want to create more knowledge about this issue," said Club President Dilyana Valeva. "Some people lack information and end up absorbing the opinions of others instead of forming their own."

The symposium is meant to present factual information about illegal immigration and the recent anti-immigration bill.

"The club is not taking any position," said Syed Hussain, the club's adviser. "The goal is to dispel any myths about this topic and

get students involved."

The presentation will consist of four speeches, each ranging up to 15 minutes and a panel discussion at the end for questions. Hussain says the symposium will be a civil discussion and a scholarly exchange of information. Topics include a historical background of immigration, political concerns, a sociological perspectives that includes a discussion on welfare and healthcare, and the economic consequences of immigration and deportation.

"I hope the information presented will spark a lot of questions and interest," said Valeva.

Immigration has been making headlines for the past eight weeks and sparked dozens of protests all over the country, with many still to come. Bill HR 4437, which passed in the House of Representatives,

makes illegal immigration a felony in the United States, including expired visas and calls for indefinite detention for undeportables. The bill also calls for a 700-mile wall to be built in popular crossing regions along the border.

The club is expecting a big turnout of students and instructors from Valley, and maybe participants from other colleges.

Congress goes back in session on May 1 and will take up this topic once again. Hussain hopes that the symposium will encourage students to call or send letters to their congressional representatives on how they feel about immigration.

The ISC is encouraging instructors and students to come out to the event and become informed about this important topic that is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday.

CONSTRUCTION



MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR

HAZARD - Workers roped off the bungalow area, from the Business/Journalism Building to Ethel Avenue, while they are demolished, but first they must be abated of lead and asbestos.

'Construction'

continued from page 1

those on campus, students are being shuffled to different classrooms.

"You'll see these buildings tented, which keeps the contaminants contained in the buildings while they clean it up," said Mitch Vaccari, the college project manager for URS corporation. "[Valley] has also hired an independent hazardous material consultant who monitors the air to make sure its safe for workers and students."

Along with health concerns, Valley is taking steps in making sure that noise problems will be avoided by covering the windows of bordering classrooms with layers of plywood to act as an acoustic barrier so sound can't penetrate.

As construction continues

with the digging of the foundation and building of the steel frame, bordering classrooms should expect some disturbances.

"It's going to be busy," said Vaccari in reference to construction traffic. "We're going to have to keep students away from that. There's going to be some things here that we're going to have to deal with."

Some weren't too excited with the location of the construction site as a long-standing and rare tree, a relative to the giant Redwoods that was rediscovered 30 years ago and thought to be extinct, on campus was marked to be cut down.

"Even though it's not exactly where the building is going to be it's close enough that its root zone would be endangered and, of course, that would effectively kill a tree," said Don Gauthier, Earth Science and Anthropology department chair.

'Denim'

continued from page 1

person wearing them." Therefore it must have been consensual sex.

The Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women has organized Denim Day in L.A., since 1999 as a protest to the Italian case.

"What was she wearing? What was she drinking? What was she doing out there at that time of night? What was she thinking? Why can't she just get over it? All of that stuff is about victim blaming and that's what we're here about today - to stop victim blaming," said Jae Weiss, director of prevention education at the Valley Trauma Center in Van Nuys, which worked in collaboration with Valley on the

event.

Guest speakers included Weiss, Deputy Brad Feder of Valley's sheriff's department, campus psychologist Dr. Carl King, Maria Leyva, counselor at Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles, and Kitty Dillavou, program director of the Violence Intervention Program.

"Domestic violence is the problem, but all of us as a community have the responsibility to make a difference," said Leyva.

The VTC, JFS, VIP, Gain and CalWORKs, Valley's student health center and Children of the Night were on hand with tables set up to provide resources, information and compassion.

"If you are a survivor or you know someone please come to our table and get our hotline number and know that we are

a safe place to land as you're trying to find your place in the world again and also to know that healing is possible," said Weiss.

The 20 hand-painted T-shirts from a "clothesline project" at a recent VTC event were on display along a walkway to Monarch Square. The shirts bear slogans concerning sexual assault, like, "She had a voice - She was scared." The artists are survivors of rape and their voices can be heard loud and clear as you read each one.

The words everyone deserves: love and respect, honesty, trust, happiness and peace of mind written on a simple faded green T-shirt gave back a voice that had been taken away.

"What our campus needs now is more voices of support

staff and students move into the building that they're going to be thrilled about having a new modern, state-of-the-art science facility to study, work and learn," said Valley President Tyree Wieder. "The things we had were very old and outdated. This is just going to be wonderful. I just wished it could've happened sooner."

Once the new science building is completed the chemistry and physics buildings will be demolished to make way for the new Student Services building, and many of the older buildings will have new names in accordance with the new functions for them.

Valley has sent pamphlets to the faculty to show a path of travel where pedestrians can walk to avoid the construction area.

Special to the Star Kristina Judson contributed to this

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ASU ELECTIONS!

Do you want to make a difference in your school?

Elect next year's student government!

April 25th and 26th

9am- 2pm, 5pm-7pm

Monarch Square

Also

Hear your Candidates speak!

April 19th @ 1pm

Alice B. Thurston Circle

Wanna support your ASU more?

Vote to raise the ASU fee from \$7 to \$10.

Help ASU support more programs
to help you!

Greater Valley Glen Council
OFFICERS

Judy Price
PRESIDENT

Terry Anderson
VICE-PRESIDENT

Laurie Lavine
SECRETARY

Chris Upland
TREASURER

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



CALL FOR ENTRIES

Logo Identity Design Competition
hosted by the Greater Valley Glen Council

Attention high school and college level students who live, study or work in Greater Valley Glen!

You are invited to participate in our logo design competition, designing its first ever logo identity.

Theme: The council is looking for an inclusive logo design that depicts the community of Greater Valley Glen, focusing on its civic diversity.

The Greater Valley Glen Council is elected by the stakeholders in the Greater Valley Glen area to serve as a neighborhood advisory board to the Los Angeles City government. We are volunteer homeowners, renters, business people and representatives from schools, churches and non-profit groups. Our goals include, but are not limited to, improving public safety and protecting the quality of life in our neighborhood.

The office of Councilmember Wendy Greuel, Council District 2 will award the winner with a Certificate of Achievement.

Deadline for submission is June 9, 2006

Guidelines are available on the web at:

www.charlottelaws.org/Logo%20contest%20GVGC%202.htm

If you need further information, please contact Linda Wehrli, Arts and Education Committee Chair at 818/766-0614 or pastimes@earthlink.net.

WE'RE NOT PSYCHIC

So tell us what's on your mind! Contact The Valley Star at thevalleystar@yahoo.com, drop by the newsroom at BJ114 or call us at (818) 947-2576. Letters should be limited to 300 words and may be edited for publication.

OPINION

3

STAFF EDITORIAL

ASU Members Fall From Grace

Valley College's Associated Student Union has organized many great events this year: the Hurricane Katrina fundraiser, the Earth Day celebration, and the innovative Book Exchange Program, to name a few.

However, it seems as though ASU's work is being put onto too few shoulders.

While certain commissioners are making the most of their positions others disrespect their titles.

A few of Valley's ASU commissioners have decided to vent their frustrations with their colleagues by trash talking them on MySpace.

The commissioners of political affairs, Vardan Pzdikyan, and evening division, Nvard "Rose" Oganessian, as well as the former Treasurer, Gayane "Diana" Avakian, who resigned earlier this semester for supposedly not having enough time, have left dozens of vulgar messages on each others' MySpace profiles targeting their fellow commissioners.

These students' blatant carelessness for what they say and where they say it gives the entire ASU a black eye.

The comments are easily accessible by anyone who knows their ASU representatives' names and has access to a computer.

It's reaching more people than standing in Monarch Square with a bullhorn.

These students' blatant carelessness for what they say and where they say it gives the entire ASU a black eye.

It's a shame that those board members don't take their positions as seriously as the union's other members.

As students we trust that those elected to represent us will work hard and conduct themselves in a professional manner.

These commissioners have done neither. In past ASU executive councils the political affairs commissioner has rallied students and organized trips to Sacramento.

This year's political affairs commissioner doesn't even plan to attend a student rally in San Diego.

Pzdikyan was quoted in the Valley Star last semester, complaining about a lack of student interest in politics.

News flash: It's your job to get them involved.

It's no wonder why all the candidates for next year's ASU besides for president are running unopposed.

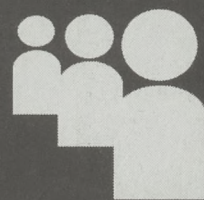
Despite the adversity she's faced this year, ASU President Nelli Martirosyan has led her small group of loyal members in accomplishing many feats.

Martirosyan and the other commissioners can hold their heads high knowing that they did not stoop to their colleagues' level and continued to conduct themselves like true leaders.

People so immature that they resort to gossiping behind their colleagues' backs are obviously not mature enough to represent a 16,000-student campus.

Perhaps those who can't carry their own weight should step aside and let someone who cares about the campus and its students pick up their slack.

Let's hope those running for the 2006-07 executive board don't take their elected positions for granted.



myspace.com[®]
a place for "fiends"

Rose	Mar 8, 2006 8:05 AM (posted on Diana's profile)
	I dont think i could've described the [redacted] better myself...but yeah thats the one i'm talkin about lol...and we did replace you, i mean they cant take your place, like the dancing in the office or blasing harout (balayan) lol...but i think they can tell us what our budget is lol
Diana	3/7/2006 2:49 PM (posted on Rose's profile)
	a certain hair female.. with a harry tummy?.. glasses?.. and her breathe always sticks.. and and u cant forget the nasty bras she wears with pointy nipples .. ewwwwww god she is horrible! iam glad it went well.. do u have someone to take my position?.. no one will be as good as me! haha suckas lol
Diana	Dec 8, 2005 11:40 AM (posted on Vardan's profile)
	hey man! lol.. yea everyone was on your [redacted] the other day! ur totally right! which i think was stupid.. [redacted] lol.. i didnt say anything during the meeting i just laughed! lol.. iam like suckaa!.. when are we as the smart ASU members (only 4 of us) going to have a conversation about this anitra thing!?? man iam so [redacted] sick ... i look and feel like poo poo!
Vardan	Oct 22, 2005 11:57 PM (posted on Diana's profile)
	mannn ur [redacted] hilarious i still cant stop laughin. Do u REALLY want me to SPANK u with a STICK??? hahaha oh yea did u get my message? well i called horhay's [redacted] and we decided the best day would be this coming friday night to go out cuzz saturday i think we got that stupid halloween shyt. anyway during the dance wut if the VP takes off her REAL mask? wut do u think she really looks like? lol
Vardan	Oct 21, 2005 12:28 PM (posted on Diana's profile)
	yea we should be able to kick some ppl's [redacted] Imfao the funniest was when illiterate prez. was giving the other ESL boardmember the oath of office. lolllll even sherri was laughing haha.
Diana	Oct 21, 2005 10:41 AM (posted on Vardan's profile)
	hey when everyone puts there hand up to say AYE i was run around the wholeeeee table slapping EVERYONE ..GAYANE TWICE THOUGH lol... I second roses COMMENT! ... there has been a motion on my space to kick all our executive boards [redacted] ...ASU WE ROCK!

The above comments are just a few of the many remarks made by ASU commissioners about their fellow board members and were taken verbatim from the MySpace profiles indicated on each comment. They have been censored for explicit language.

Illustration by Jesus Esquivel and LaGina Phillips

AN OPINION

Reopening National Wounds

BY MARC HOWARD
STAFF WRITER

It's not surprising that people are overreacting over "United 93," the first film to deal explicitly with the events of 9/11.

The trailers for the film screened in theatres across the country earlier this month caused quite a commotion; one woman was brought to tears after seeing the trailer at an AMC Loews theater in New York City. That chain received so many complaints that it removed the trailer from its screens.

When the trailer played at the Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood, audience members began calling out, "Too soon!"

I find it hard to understand how audience members can complain to a movie theatre for advertising the movies it will be showing. If you're going to complain about the movie, wouldn't you complain to those who made the film?

Or maybe, in this case, you should complain to the families of the Flight 93 victims, all of whom gave their approval of the production of this movie.

Not only did the film's writer/director Paul Greengrass, best known for the 2004 film "The Bourne Supremacy," secure the approval of the victim's families, he and his production team conducted meticulous research that included interviews with the victims' families to make sure that the film was accurate and tasteful. Many of the victims' loved ones have attended screenings of the film and felt that the story of Flight 93 was told respectfully.

"Universal [the film's studio] did justice to history, based on what I know," said Hamilton Peterson who lost his father and stepmother on Flight 93. "You could hear a pin drop, at times. When it was over, there was not a dry eye in the house."

"It was both excruciating and beautiful at the same time," said Alice Hoagland of Los Gatos, California, whose son Mark Bingham was on the flight. She attended a screening in Northern California with 60 other Flight 93 family members and friends. "I think it was faithful to what we know to have happened, and where [the filmmakers] had to improvise, the dialogue was believable," according to online sources.

The bottom line is that moviegoers will decide this Friday when the film opens whether it is too soon for a film to deal with 9/11. In other words: those who think it's too soon won't go see the movie.

Those who think the film is exploitive may also want to bypass it. But then they may also want to stop seeing just about all movies based on true stories.

Whenever a true story is appropriated for the purpose of earning millions of bucks, what you have is a case of exploitation.

This is true whether we're talking about the story of Truman Capote, Jesus Christ, Alexander the Great or the passengers of Flight 93.

Hollywood is one of the proudest examples of one of America's strongest foundations, which is capitalization. Hollywood knows how to capitalize on things good, bad and horrific. It has always done so and will continue to do so.

At least in this case, the exploitation was done in a tasteful fashion, which is all that we can ask of a filmmaker.

Furthermore, when Hollywood does exploit a true happening, the resulting film is often much more than a film; movies based on true stories, when they are well made, can act as a lasting record of our times.

Campus View

PHOTOS BY MORRIS DE LA ROCA

What impact has the student government had on you?



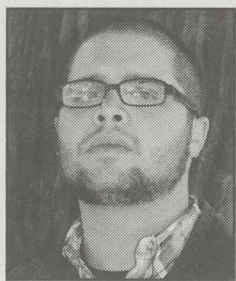
"What student government?"

-Meryl Olah
Psychology



"They've done a great job with the Comedy Night, the Armenian Genocide memorial and the Book Buy Back Program. I saved a lot of money with the book program."

-Narine Jugharyan
International Business



"When I'm here I see different ASU sponsored events going on. I don't monitor them but from what I see they're doing what they need to be doing."

-Nick Viola
Undecided



"I don't really know what impact [it's had]; it's not too publicized, what they do."

-Megan Lacy
Nursing

LETTERS: VALLEY STAR tries to print as many letters from its readers as possible. Letters should not exceed 300 words or they may be edited for space and must include the author's full name, major or connection to Valley College and contact information.

Martirosyan: There is Only One "Kind" of Armenian

Every time I am asked about my nationality, I respond by saying that "I am an Armenian." The question that follows almost always is, "Which kind of Armenian?" This is when my whole world turns upside down. My reaction to this question is usually a need to scream to the world "The Armenian Genocide." However, I won't make sense if I do so.

Whenever I am asked which kind of Armenian I am, my heart gets torn into 1.5 million pieces for a Armenian killed in the Armenian Genocide. People reading this letter might wonder what the correlation is between the Armenian Genocide and the ques-

tion "Which kind of Armenian" I am.

The Armenian Genocide was the first genocide of the 20th century, planned and administered by the Ottoman Turkish Government from 1915-1923. It was executed and organized by the leaders of the Young Turk party, Ismail Enver, Mehmet Talat and Ahmed Djemal. These evil beings had a plan of a creating Pan-Turkic state and extending Turkey to Central Asia. Thus, the Turkish government used the cover of WWI to "relocate" Armenians from the "war zone" for their "safety."

On April 24, 1915, 600 Armenian intellectual leaders

were killed in Constantinople. The Ottoman's, Turkey's leaders, goal was to cut the nation's head first and then get to the rest of the parts. During the "relocation" Armenians were denied food and water, were brutalized and killed by their "guards" in inhuman ways. Armenians in the Army were disarmed, placed into labor battalions and killed. Some Armenian women and children were offered the alternative of conversion to Islam and subsequent slavery in Turkish homes.

I always remember the story of two Turks who made a bet with each other whether the baby inside of an Armenian pregnant woman

was a boy or a girl. In order to check the sex of the baby, they grabbed the woman cutting her stomach and pulling the baby out of her with a knife.

As a result of the deportation and massacres, 1.5 million Armenians were killed, out of a total of 2 million living in the Ottoman Empire.

Today, 91 years after the genocide, many countries including Canada, France, England, Germany, Greece, Italy, The Netherlands, and Russia have recognized the genocide, while other countries have not, due to political reasons and strategic interests in Turkey. Although there is no fed-

eral recognition of the Armenian Genocide in the United States, 39 of the 50 states have recognized it independently.

Armenians had to escape from their ancestral homeland in order to stay alive. Many immigrated to the United States, many went to Lebanon, Iran, Russia, France and to other parts of the world. I hope it is clear to those reading this letter why we, the Armenians, carry the label of all these "kinds" of Armenians. In reality there is only one kind of Armenian and it is the Armenian kind.

Nelli Martirosyan
ASU President

WEDNESDAY
TO TUESDAY

Wednesday, April 26

Dr. Dean Yamaguchi

Part of the Spring 2006 Science Seminar Series will be speaking on the role of inflammatory chemokines in bone repair. Valley College Mainstage Theater 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 27

Justice Day

Monarch Square Valley College
K9 Narcotics / Bomb Detection (dog and Handler Demonstration),
Motor Officers, SWAT, Smart Car, Recruitment Section
10 a.m. - 2:00p.m.
(818) 947-2982

The Coup

Funk and tall tales in a band comprised of Boots Riley, DJ Pam, Tom Morello, Dwayne Wiggins and veterans of Parliament-Funkadelic.
Amoeba Music 6400 Sunset Blvd. Hollywood
7 p.m. / Free / All Ages

Friday, April 28

MOVIE RELEASES:



"United 93" (R)
"Over the Hedge" (PG)
"R.V." (PG)
"Kinky Boots" (PG-13)
"Akeelah and the Bee" (PG)
"Stick It" (PG-13)
"Wassup Rockers" (R)

Saturday, April 29

Telling Our Stories
In Council

Presented by Child Development Department, Workshop on sharing stories about children, special places and important events. Math-Science Building, Room 110 Valley College 11:00 - 1 p.m. (818) 947-2407

L.A. Times

Festival of Books

April 29 and 30 at UCLA signings in Royce Hall by Frank McCourt, Mitch Albom, Joan Didion and David Ulin on April 29. Patt Morrison, Carl Reiner, and Sarah Vowell among many others. 10 a.m. www.booksoup.com

Sunday, April 30

The Bank

Hosted by Loud Luisa and her side kicks Nickel, Dime and Penny. DJ Algonquin turning out tunes from 10s, 20s, and 30s. At The 3 of Clubs 1123 N. Vine Hollywood 9 p.m. / 21+ / \$3

Monday, May 1

"Judgment At Nuremberg"

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The film will be preceded by the animated nominee "Nelly's Folly" directed by Chuck Jones. Introduction by screenwriter Abby Mann. 8949 Wilshire Boulevard in Beverly Hills (310) 247-3600 \$5 General \$3 Student / 6:30 p.m.

Art Gallery Says "Let Them Eat Cake"

BY JESUS ESQUIVEL
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

The Valley College Art Gallery is featuring an exhibit that would be a diabetic's nightmare and cause disappointing confusion in children.

The 20-piece-painting exhibition, "A Sweet Ride," contains big life-like pastries and boxes that look like packaging for toys and car products all created by Southern California artist Dan Douke.

"In both the painting of boxes and bakery confections my interest is in the duality and dilemmas between function and use, ornament and purpose," Douke said in his artist statement posted on the gallery wall. "Ultimately I just want to paint a better world."

The functional artwork is on the walls and the floor. An unknowing visitor might even think the floor displays are trash on small platforms. On Sunday's opening reception Douke directed the curious to the "GTXT" display, which is a box painting of GTX motor oil packaging and is the only work on its side giving insight to how the box of wood is wrapped in canvas.

"It's all paint on canvas," Douke told skeptic patrons. "Even the dirt."

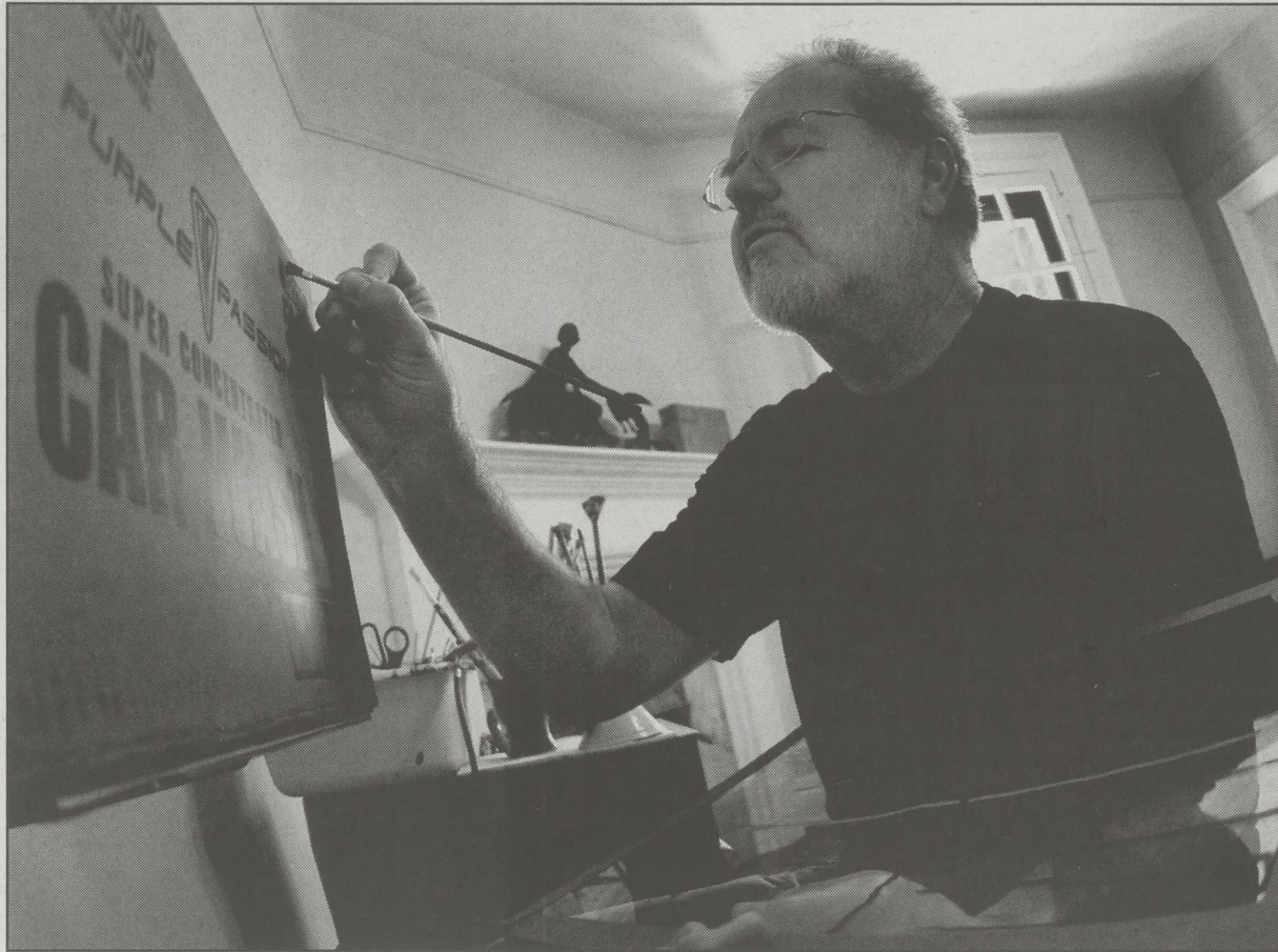
The boxes are so real in texture and design some even appear to have dents, travel wear and watermarks. Douke has even gone as far as to put bar codes and shipping and receiving data marks on them that appear to be done by laser printer.

"Whizz Wheel" a seemingly simplistic small blue box with a label on its side contains such detail in capturing the look of a parcel that has fallen victim to disregard that it appears to have watermarks that swirl in a pattern of diffused blues that get darker the further they are from a dark brown corner.

This comes from a man who believes art shouldn't look like art.

"If you dismissed it you wouldn't know what it is," Douke said at Monday's lecture where he led a slide-show discourse for students and faculty members about his early art and transitions into his newest work. "You have to stop and really look at these items of expendability."

The traditional paintings are all desserts and



ITEMS OF EXPENDABILITY - Southern California artist Dan Douke touches up one of his conceptual paintings on view at the Los Angeles Valley College Art Gallery through May 25.

sweets as pleasing to the eye as they would be to a child sneaking a finger taste of forbidden cake frosting.

"Time and Space" is a glossy black chocolate heart-shaped confection outlined in white and red frosting with a flower on top. It looks like a picture in a menu, even the decorative background is in soft focus.

Off to the side, "Fiction" shows six cookies in three rows on top of a glass plate. The sugary treats are yellow ducks, blue and pink happy faces pressed against shiny plastic on top of a flowery tablecloth that looks like something from an era of peace and love.

"It's you the viewer who puts the meaning in the art," said Douke.

These seven flowery treats and 13 boxes are certain to bring smiles to the curios, anyone who was once a child or has a sweet tooth will walk away in delight.

Gallery Hours
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 7 p.m.
to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday.
The exhibit will run until May 25.

VALLEY PEOPLE

Full Time Fine Art Focus

BY LAGINA PHILLIPS
MANAGING EDITOR

As she flipped through one of her many three-ring binders packed to their capacities, Hallie Baran denied being too busy: "You just need to pace yourself really well."

As though being a full-time student, an ASU commissioner and active in the theater department weren't enough, the 22 year old started a new job earlier this month at the Will Geer Theatrum Botanicum, a theater specializing in outdoor productions.

"Between the theater and ASU I learn so much," Baran said. "People skills, communication skills and organizational skills."

Baran is confident that she will have no problem balancing her new job with her other commitments, such as stage managing two productions that will hit the stage in May: "An Inspector Calls," a fundraiser for the Valley Collegiate Players, and the annual Fine Arts Festival, which are both part of her duties as ASU's Fine Arts Commissioner. In addition to putting on those productions she acquires talent for campus activities and works as a liaison between the ASU and theater department.

"Hallie brings a passion for the arts to ASU," said ASU adviser Sherri Rodriguez. "She is both all-informed and well educated."

Having just wrapped up her lighting operator duties on the recent Mainstage production of "Steel Pier," Baran has been involved in more than 20 productions at Valley College, doing everything from directing, acting and stage-managing to sound and light operating, which is her true passion. "[Lighting] heightens the



DOUBLE DUTY - Hallie Baran is not only active in the theater department, but also serves as the Associated Student Union's fine arts commissioner.

spectacle of what you're looking at, let it be a play or concert," said Baran.

With a background in pre-veterinarian medicine, Baran changed directions after coming to Valley in 2003 and those around her are glad she did.

"I've never worked with anyone better," said theater major Melissa Alva, who has worked with Baran on multiple productions. "She knows how to get things done."

Baran plans to finish the semester strong and graduate this June with an AA and a

certificate. She will work with the Botanicum until next year when she will start UCLA as a theater major.

"While there is stress and drama I've truly enjoyed my experiences here," said Baran. "I'll walk out of here with many friends."

The Fine Arts Festival is scheduled for May 5 at in the Mainstage Theater and the VCP's "An Inspector Calls" will run May 18, 19, 20, 25, 26 and 27 in the Horseshoe Theater. To make reservations, call 818-947-2790.

CD REVIEW

NOFX Loses Effect

■ NOFX's new album sticks to the same pop punk agenda.

BY KRISTINA JUDSON
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The lyrics are comedic and infallibly catchy, they range from a line about punching your supervisor in the throat to explaining how the band is "America's kidney stone," but this late-April release from NOFX is an electric guitar driven, nasally sung album, which is anything but unique or mind blowing.

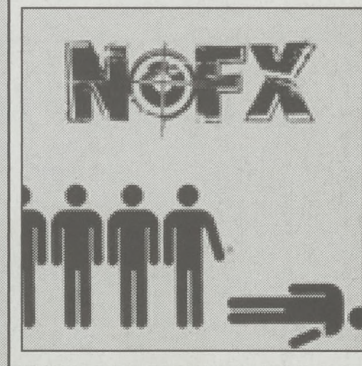
This L.A. group has been around since 1983 and has made 15 full-length albums and 18 EPs. They voice their hatred for corporations like MTV and have turned down all offers from this conglomerate. This and most of their EPs were released on Fat Wreck Chords, a record label founded by Fat Mike, lead singer and bassist and one of NOFX's three original members, along with guitarist Eric Melvin and drummer Erik Sandin, who were joined by guitarist El Hefe in 1991.

The 18-track, 46-minute album opens with "60%," slow and melodic with an inaudible drum beat, then in true NOFX fashion speeds up as the guitars, drums and bass get louder. It is similar to any late Blink-182 song and is featured again as the last track, "60%(Reprise)," with guitar notes resembling harp playing that transition into a faster energized version, with different lyrics, still ending in the melody of the first "60%."

The more notable songs are "USA-holes," "Seeing Double At The Triple Rock" which has a music video featuring people dressed up

"Wolves In
Wolves' Clothing"

Band: NOFX
Label: Fat Wreck Chords
★★★ out of 5



as religious deities, "100 Times Fucked" and "You Will Lose Faith," which sound like early NOFX: punk songs with a metal hint, reminiscent of their diversely paced album "Punk In Drublic."

"The Man I Killed" stands alone because it trades off from yokel ho-down beats to their token skate punk noise. "Cantando En Espanol" was also a breath of fresh air featuring El Hefe singing in Spanish to a strong bass rhythm, and strumming electric guitar to produce a Spanish love song vibe with rock music that serenades nonetheless.

At the end of the album is a hidden track with Fat Mike singing like a drunken Eric Cartman from "South Park."

Though more mel-low, NOFX hasn't changed its formula for good rock songs unlike their contemporaries Guttermouth and Pennywise. They're still the same old group that won't let you down. The band's new CD doesn't compare to "Punk In Drublic" or "White Trash, Two Heeb's and A Bean." After you've heard those, you've heard them all.

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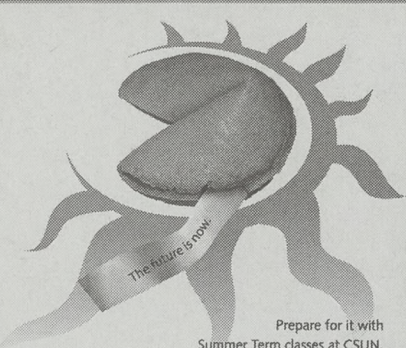
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CLASS SCHEDULE
Session 1: June 5 – August 25
Session 2: June 5 – July 14
Session 3: July 17 – August 25

Mail-in, in-person and web registration begin April 10. Walk-in and drop box registration are held at the Client Services counter, Room 100, in the Tseng College/Matador Bookstore Complex. Summer 2006 for Visiting Summer Students information is available on the web. Class schedules are available at the Tseng College/Bookstore Complex. For additional information or a free Summer 2006 schedule, please call the Tseng College office, (818) 677-2504 or visit web site: <http://tsengcollege.csun.edu>.



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Stars of the Week

Track and Field



MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR

Antoinette Burton
Sophomore
She competed in seven events at the WSC prelims last Saturday and qualified for the finals in three events. She finished in first place in the high jump with a jump of 5'0."

Baseball



MORRIS DE LA ROCA / VALLEY STAR

Jordan Sisson
first base and catcher
Hit two homeruns including a grand slam to help the Monarchs beat Citrus College 12-8.

LAVC SCORES

Baseball @ Citrus
(W 12-8)
Baseball Record: 15-25-1, 9-12

Softball @ Glendale
(W 10-7 and W 11-1)
Softball Record: 18-22, 10-9

Men's Track and Field @ WSC prelims @ Santa Barbara City College
Eight athletes and both relay teams qualified for the finals.

Women's Track and Field @ WSC prelims @ Santa Barbara City College
Three athletes in seven events qualified for the finals.

LAVC SCHEDULE

Wednesday 4/26/06
Baseball @ Canyons 2:30 p.m.

Thursday 4/27/06
Swimming @ WSC Championship @ Citrus TBA

Friday 4/28/06
Swimming @ WSC Championship @ Citrus TBA

Saturday 4/29/06
Baseball vs. Canyons 1 p.m.
Swimming @ WSC Championship @ Citrus TBA
Track @ WSC Finals @ Moorpark 9 a.m.

Sunday 4/30/06
No Scheduled Games

Monday 5/1/06
No Scheduled Games

Tuesday 5/2/06
No Scheduled Games



For more sport photos and stories, please visit
www.lavalleystar.com

BASEBALL

Grand Slam Turns Lights Out on Owls

By MARCO ELORREAGA
STAFF WRITER

As the season winds down, the Valley College Monarchs continued their strong season by defeating the Citrus College Owls 12-8 Saturday at Citrus.

"It felt really good to get those out of here," said first baseman Jordan Sisson referring to his two home runs, "But like I said before, I couldn't have done it without the team. It was a collective unit. We got the job done."

Valley gave solid performances in all aspects of the game with a grand slam by Sisson and solid performances by the pitching staff and defense.

"We want to continue to improve because a lot of our guys who are starting for us are going to be back next year."

- Dave Mallas
Head Coach

The second inning began with a bases-loaded single by second baseman Chris Cervantes that brought in the first two runs. Following shortly, short stop Grant Bomann came in with a double for two additional runs, making the score 4-0, Valley.

It wasn't long before the Owls answered back with three runs of their own at the bottom of the second. Things weren't looking good as both the Owls and the Monarchs continued to rub necks with the score knotted at 4-4 in the bottom of the fourth inning.

"With four games remaining, we just want to finish strong and win," said head coach Dave Mallas. "These guys are ahead of us in standing, so it was important to finish strong and



DANIEL KANE / VALLEY STAR

OUT BY A MILE - Citrus College Owl Michael Gonzalez slides home too late as Monarch catcher Sammy Sabourin tags him out in last Saturday's game where the Monarchs defeated the Owls 12-8.

play as well as we can with them."

With Valley slightly leading, it was at the top of the sixth inning when Sisson connected with the ball for a grand slam, driving in four runs and giving the Monarchs a 10-4 lead,

which pretty much sealed the game for the Monarchs for the day.

As the Owls began to chip away at the lead, Sisson returned for an encore, bringing home right fielder Leandro Dottavio for an RBI, making the score a distant 12-5 at the top of the eighth.

But the Owls weren't extinct, yet. Catcher Richie Roseli and third baseman Matt Ross brought in two more runs

for Citrus at the bottom of the eighth, but their efforts were in vain as the final score stayed in Valley's favor, 12-8.

"We want to continue to improve because a lot of our guys who are starting for us are going to be back next year," said Mallas. "It's very important for us, whether we get in the playoffs or not, to finish on a high point so they can leave with a little bit of confidence coming back next year."

SOFTBALL

Lady Monarchs Come From Behind to Defeat Rival COC



DAVID ELIAS / VALLEY STAR

SLIDING IN - Shortstop Carla Arreola slides into third base in the Lady Monarchs' 6-5 win in the bottom of the 10th against the Bakersfield Renegades to bring their record to 16-22 overall and 8-9 in the conference.

By DANIEL SROURIAN
STAFF WRITER

The Lady Monarchs' softball team made a late charge against Bakersfield Thursday, erasing a five-run deficit in the bottom of the sixth inning to earn a hard fought 6-5 victory in the bottom of the 10th inning in the last home game of the season.

It was the Monarchs' sixth comeback victory of the year, and a big one considering the Renegades from Bakersfield came into the game hot with a four-game win streak.

Valley's record now stands at 18-22 overall, with a respectable 10-9 conference mark.

"They played the way they're capable of playing," said assistant coach Frank Sotello. "We've been telling [the players] that they can play at this level all year, and that's what they showed today."

It was a tale of two halves

for Valley, as Bakersfield cruised to a 5-0 lead behind consistent offense and solid pitching from Kory Marko, who finished the day with 11 strikeouts. Valley struggled to make anything of the several base runners they put on through the first five innings, stranding seven amidst an offensive shutout.

All changed in the bottom of the sixth as Valley was able to load the bases with no outs. Right fielder Nicole Valentine drove in two runs and outfielder Maida Akmal added one more to cut the deficit to two.

Bakersfield helped Valley score one more run in the inning with a throwing error. The Lady Monarchs tied the game after outfielder Leilani Madrigal safely bunted in a runner from third base.

"We came out to play, and we played hard for all 10 innings,"

said Madrigal after the tight finish.

The teams remained scoreless for the next two extra innings, setting the stage for the dramatic bottom of the 10th score.

With one out and winning run standing a few feet away at third base, second baseman Kali Shepherd hit a hard shot down the right-field line and rejoiced as the team gathered to greet their new hero.

"It was just a great win for us," said head coach Frankie Garcia, who earned her first victory against Bakersfield College in her coaching career at Valley. "We got the monkey off our back, and it feels great."

Valley closes the season with a doubleheader at L.A. Mission College, but will need some help from other teams in order to make the West State Conference playoffs, which will begin May 6.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Diving

Diver Guillermo Centeno scored 174 points in the 11 dives he made at the NCAA Men's One-Meter Diving Conference Championship that earned him a 20th place finish out of the 25 divers.

Track and Field

The men's team had a strong showing at the WSC prelims held last weekend at Santa Barbara City College.

Jumper Dartanian Hightower placed fifth in the triple jump

with a leap of 43'5" to qualify for the finals. Long jumper Clarence Walton also qualified for the finals with a jump of 20'3.5." Distance runner Michael Stotland came in 10th in the 800-meter race and qualified for the finals. Overall, the men's team will send eight athletes and two relay teams to the WSC finals at Moorpark Saturday.

The women's team also had a successful meet. Antoinette Burton competed

in seven events and qualified for the finals in three of them, which earned her athlete of the week. In the high jump she came in first place with a jump of 5'0" and came in fourth in the long jump with a jump of 15'8.5." Alma Palacios competed in five events and qualified in two. The women had three people qualify for seven events and they will compete in the WSC finals at Moorpark on Saturday.

VALLEY PEOPLE

Dottavio Finds His Spot with Monarchs

By SEDA TERZIAN
STAFF WRITER

Number nine walks up to bat, the pressure is on and the bases are loaded. This 19-year-old Monarch hopes for a fastball and that's what he gets. He feels the force of the bat and the ball colliding and knows that it's going to go far. He sends the ball over the fence and four runs home with one swing.

Grand slammer Leandro Dottavio stands 6 feet 4 inches, and weighs 235 pounds, the biggest member of the Monarchs' baseball team. Teammates call him Big Dot or Dotzilla.

Dottavio began playing baseball at Grant High School, where he earned a lot of good press.

He was named team MVP as a senior.

After Grant, Dottavio walked on at UCLA, where he made the team as a freshman but sat on the bench.

"I just wanted to play baseball, I didn't want to waste my time sitting on a bench," said Dottavio. "I think a Monarch could kill a Bruin," said Dottavio jokingly.

Dottavio decided to attend Valley so he could play and improve his skills. He maintained a 3.0 GPA at UCLA, but was also unhappy that the school didn't offer a business law major.

"I like Valley better than UCLA, it's more comfortable," said Dottavio. "I enjoy playing and being a part of this team a whole lot more."

He plans to attend Valley for another year and then transfer to a university.

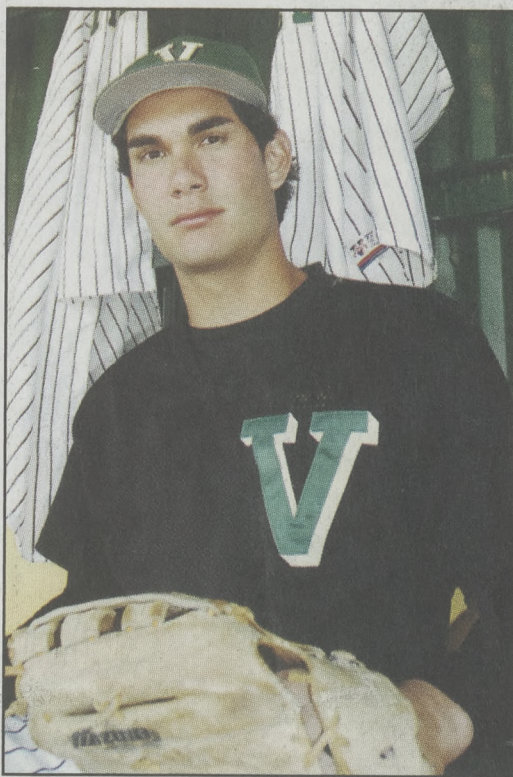
"Leandro has been a definite asset to our program this year," said Coach Dave Mallas. "He has a lot of potential and has earned respect with a position in the middle of the [batting] line up."

Dottavio plays right field and leads the team with a .349 batting average.

He is very grateful to Mallas for allowing him to tryout for the team in January, when the cutoff for tryouts is in September. Mallas said taking someone on the team that late is a rare occurrence and the player has to be pretty good.

"Leandro is one of the hardest working hitters on the team," said teammate Manny Ybarra. "He practices twice as hard, all the time, and he's been a big addition to the team."

Dottavio, who has been playing baseball since he was 5, aspires to play baseball professionally. His favorite team is the New York Yankees and he looks



MORRIS DE LA ROCA / VALLEY STAR

POWERFUL MONARCH - Rightfielder Leandro Dottavio is finding playing time at Valley and leads the team with a .349 batting average.

up to players such as Derek Jeter and Alex Rodriguez for their baseball skills and their character.

He remains a devoted athlete who is passionate and determined to play the game he loves.

Dottavio says that he is "... never satisfied and I know that I have not yet even come close to reaching my full potential."